

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-41. (Cancelled)

42. (New) A content distribution management system for circulating a content via a network, said system comprising a first communication terminal device, a second communication terminal device, and a distribution management device,

wherein said first communication terminal device includes:

a content obtaining unit operable to specify a desired content by searching in the network, and determine whether or not a communication terminal device which owns the desired content is said second communication terminal device;
and

a first communication unit operable to

(i) send distribution request information to said second communication terminal device when said content obtaining unit determines that the communication terminal device which owns the desired content is said second communication terminal device, and receive the desired content from said second communication terminal device, the distribution request information indicating a request for distribution of the desired content, and

(ii) send purchase request information to said distribution management device, and receive copyright-related information from said distribution management device, the purchase request information indicating an intention to purchase the desired content received from said second communication terminal device, and the copyright-related information allowing a use of the desired content;

wherein said second communication terminal device includes a second communication unit operable to

(i) send the desired content indicated in the distribution request information to said first communication terminal device, when receiving the distribution request information from said first communication terminal device,
and

(ii) receive an intermediary fee notice from said distribution management device when the desired content sent to said first communication terminal device has not been purchased, the intermediary fee notice indicating a payment of an intermediary fee;

wherein said distribution management device includes:

a distribution management communication unit operable to send the copyright-related information to said first communication terminal device when receiving the purchase request information from said first communication terminal device, the copyright-related information allowing a use of the desired content to be purchased which is indicated in the purchase request information; and

a charging management unit operable to determine whether or not the desired content to be purchased has been purchased, and determine, based on the purchase request information, whether or not the communication terminal device to which the intermediary fee should be paid is said second communication terminal device, when determining that the content has not been purchased; and

wherein when said charging management unit determines that the communication terminal device to which the intermediary fee should be paid is said second communication terminal device, said distribution management communication unit is operable to send the intermediary fee notice to said second communication terminal device.

43. (New) The content distribution management system according to Claim 42, wherein:

said distribution management device further includes a copyright management unit operable to determine whether or not said second communication terminal device is a communication terminal device of an authorized intermediary, when said charging management unit determines that the communication terminal device to which the intermediary fee should be paid is said second communication terminal device; and

said distribution management communication unit is operable to send the intermediary fee notice only when said copyright management unit determines that said

second communication terminal device is the communication terminal device of the authorized intermediary.

44. (New) The content distribution management system according to Claim 42, wherein said distribution management communication unit is operable to send predetermined advertisement information together with the copyright-related information to said first communication terminal device.